

# Line List-Custom Field Variable Names

## Description

A line list is an organized, detailed list of each record entered into NHSN. This specific line list, which can be used by facilities and groups, will allow you to view a facility's custom field variables and the corresponding variable labels used in NHSN analysis output options.

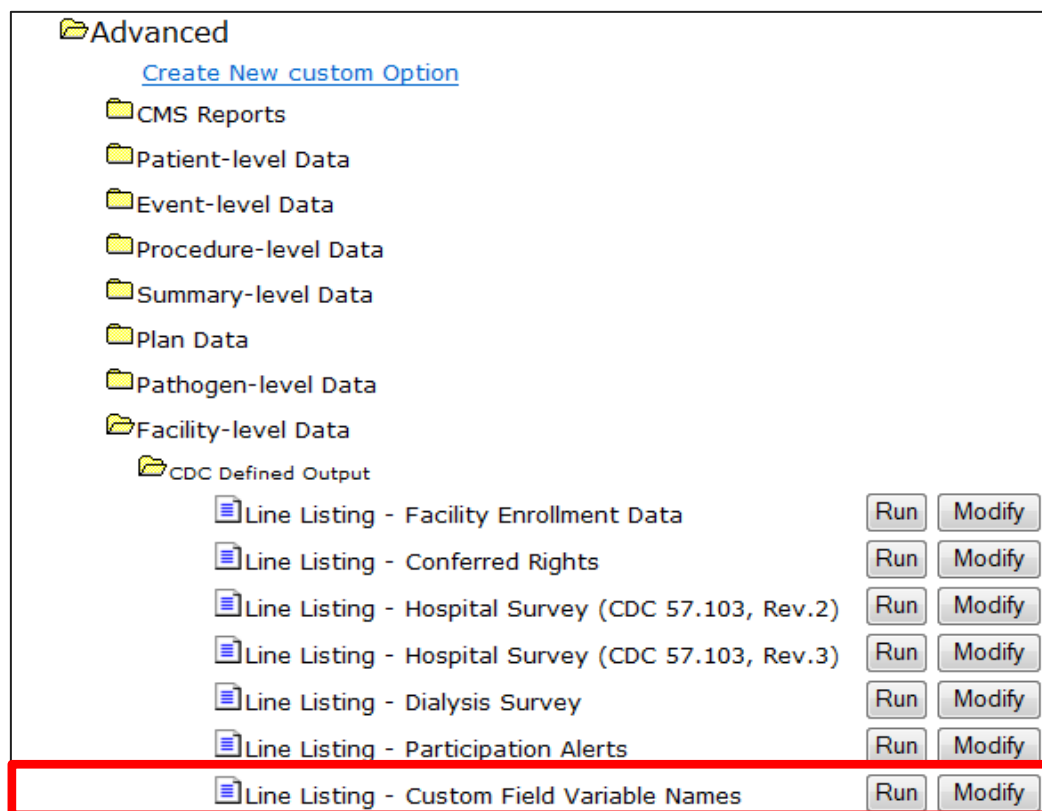
This guide should be used as a supplement to the basic line list quick reference guide, found here: <http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/PS-Analysis-resources/PDF/LineLists.pdf>

## Example

After running several analyses in NHSN, you notice that one of the facilities in your group (org ID=01234) has created several custom field variables for both patient-level and procedure-level data. NHSN is only showing these variables as "custom 1", "custom 2", etc. in the analysis output, and you are not sure which custom field variable refers to which data. You need to create a separate line list for each form (i.e. a separate line list for patient-level and procedure-level data) that shows each custom field variable along with its CDC-assigned variable label.

## Creating the Line List

This line list option can be found in the Advanced folder under Analysis> Advanced> Facility-level Data> CDC Defined Output> Line Listing- Custom Field Variable Names. Click 'Modify' to the right of this output option.



## Modification Page

### Line Listing

Analysis Data Set: PSCustomLabels Export Analysis Data Set

**Modify Attributes of the Output:**

Last Modified On: 01/18/2013  
Output Type: Line Listing  
Output Name: Line Listing - Custom Field Variabl  
Output Title: Line Listing - Custom Field Variabl

**Select output format:**

Output Format: HTML  
☒ Use Variable Labels

**Select a time period or Leave Blank for Cumulative Time Per**

**No Date Variable Found.**

**Specify Other Selection Criteria:**

Show Criteria Column + Row + Clear Criteria

orgID	
= 01234	

**Other Options:** Print Va

Modify Variables To Display By Clicking: Modify List  
Specify Sort Variables By Clicking: Modify List  
Select Page by variable: formType

Run Save As Reset Back Export Output Data Set

### Top Section of Modification Page:

- In the top section of the modification page, you can modify the name, title, and output format of the line list. Note: If you wish to save your modifications as a template for future reports, you will be required to change the output name.

*Tip: For more descriptive variable labels on your line list, check the box to "Use Variable Labels" (recommended).*

### Middle Section of Modification Page:

- In the middle sections of the page, you can filter the output by selection criteria (form type, location, org ID, etc.) using the selection grid.
- In this example, we have limited the line list to our facility of interest (org ID=01234).

*Tip: If you are not a group user and are instead generating this line list for your own facility, this step is not needed.*

### Bottom Section of Modification Page:

- In the bottom section of the page, you can specify variables to include in the line list by clicking the first "Modify List" link.
- You can select the variables on which you would like to sort the data by clicking the second "Modify List" link.
- The Page by option will create one line list for each value of the variable. Select formType as the Page by variable in order to create separate line lists for each form type (patient and procedure forms).

## Output/Results

The expected line list for this exercise is shown below. There is one line list showing the custom variables created for procedure-level data and a separate line list for patient-level data. Within each line list, there is one row of data for each custom variable.

- custVarName refers to the CDC-assigned variable labels that appear in the NHSN analysis output
- custLabel shows the facility-assigned label that describes the custom variable

### National Healthcare Safety Network Line Listing - Custom Field Variable Names

As of: January 22, 2013 at 9:49 AM  
Date Range: All PSCUSTOMLABELS

formType=CDC-Defined - PS - Procedure

orgID	formType	formName	location	formStatus	custVarName	custLabel	custDataType	fieldStatus
10587	CDC-Defined - PS - Procedure	CBGB		A	custom1	SCRUB NURSE	alpha	A
10587	CDC-Defined - PS - Procedure	CBGB		A	custom2	1ST ASSISTANT	alpha	A
10587	CDC-Defined - PS - Procedure	CBGB		A	custom3	NO. VESSELS	alpha	A

Sorted by formName  
Data contained in this report were last generated on January 22, 2013 at 9:46 AM.

### National Healthcare Safety Network Line Listing - Custom Field Variable Names

As of: January 22, 2013 at 9:49 AM  
Date Range: All PSCUSTOMLABELS

formType=CDC-Defined - Patient

orgID	formType	formName	location	formStatus	custVarName	custLabel	custDataType	fieldStatus
10587	CDC-Defined - Patient	PATIENT		A	custom1	DIABETES (Y/N)	alpha	A
10587	CDC-Defined - Patient	PATIENT		A	custom2	DATE OF VISIT	date	A

Sorted by formName  
Data contained in this report were last generated on January 22, 2013 at 9:46 AM.

All custom variables on the procedure form were created for CBGB procedures (formName). Based on the above output, we can see that “custom1” on the procedure form refers to the name of the Scrub Nurse. This variable is in alpha-numeric format (custDataType) and is currently an active field (fieldStatus). The facility has also added variables for diabetes status and date of visit to the patient form, which are referred to as “custom1” and “custom2”, respectively, in NHSN analysis.

### Additional Resources:

Introduction to NHSN Analysis: <http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/PDFs/training/intro-AnalysisBasics-PSC.pdf>

Analysis with Custom Field Variables: <http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/PS-Analysis-resources/PDF/CustomFields.pdf>

How to filter your data on additional criteria: <http://www.cdc.gov/nhsn/PS-Analysis-resources/PDF/SelectionCriteria.pdf>